

THE TIMES

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THE TIMES COMPANY.

MANCHESTER BUREAU, 1121 HULL STREET.

NEW YORK BUREAU, 2 M. BRENNAN, MANAGER, TIMES BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY.

PETERSBURG BUREAU, 109 SYCAMORE STREET.

THE CIRCULATION OF THE TIMES IS LARGER THAN EVER BEFORE IN ITS HISTORY, AND IS STEADILY INCREASING.

THE MANCHESTER CIRCULATION OF THE TIMES IS NOW GREATER THAN ALL THE OTHER RICHMOND PAPERS COMBINED.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1892.

SIX PAGES.

THE CITY PRINTING. We regret that our neighbor, the State, finds fault with the action of the Committee on Printing of the City Council in awarding the contract to "The Times" Monday night. We do not see how the committee could have done otherwise upon the state of the case. The facts are simply these:

In the advertisement for bids the following stipulation was made: "Advertising per square, or inch, each insertion, NONPAREIL TYPE, CLOSE." In compliance with this, The Times submitted a bid at the rate of 45 cents per inch single column each insertion, and 50 cents per inch each insertion for rule and figure work, and stated in closing its proposal: "All of the above to be set in nonpareil type close, as per your advertisement for proposals."

The State's bid was for 30 and 35 cents per inch, or twelve lines "NONPAREIL TYPE MEASURE." This was clearly not in conformity with the advertisement, and without more than a few minutes' deliberation the committee awarded the contract to The Times, for reasons that are quite obvious to any printer.

The clerk of the committee is a practical compositor and president of the Richmond Typographical Union, besides being an employee of the State office. Mr. Bowden, who offered the resolutions awarding the contract to The Times, is also a practical printer, and we believe that some years ago he worded the contract as above in order to prevent the use of unnecessary space in the setting up of the city's advertising.

At the meeting were present representatives from leading printing establishments, one of whom was consulted by a member of the committee while the question was pending, and all acquiesced in the committee's decision.

The committee distinctly designated the size of the type to be used in printing ordinances, not the method of measurement, and now that the case has been settled in accordance with the requirements laid down by themselves, we do not see any possible way that the committee can recede from its position.

Notwithstanding the reports of Mr. Blaine's improved condition he is still a very sick man, and there is genuine cause for the serious alarm felt for him by his friends. Should he suffer another attack of heart failure such as that which he underwent last Sunday, it is not believed that he can possibly survive. The truth is that Mr. Blaine has been a sick man, more or less, ever since 1881, when it will be remembered by some, he had a fainting spell on the streets of Washington. His present illness is but the culmination of a disease of which he has so long been a victim, and having tried his constitution to the utmost, it is evident now that the end is not far away.

A movement is on foot to abolish the death penalty in New York, and substitute therefor imprisonment for life. If it succeeds the crimes which are common enough now in the Empire State and the metropolis will be more than doubled, for the hope of a pardon always rouses life imprisonment of many of its terrors, and criminals will grow bolder if they know that death for murder is really played out. Should the movement succeed it would soon be found necessary to restore the ancient law demanding life for life.

The New Orleans Times-Democrat in discussing the story that has been the rounds of the papers that Texas would be liable to be divided into several States says that it has not heard of a single Texas paper in favor of the proposition. The men in Texas favorable to the division are those whose ambition leads towards the United States Senate and gubernatorial honors which a division might gratify. For all this the time must come when Texas will have to be divided. She covers too tremendous an area to much longer remain only one State.

The official canvass in Idaho brings some curious facts to light. In Shoshone county two votes were cast for Grover Cleveland for President, and in one county one man voted for "Old Hickory" for President. The fusionist electoral vote was also discarded by many who voted the electoral ticket originally nominated by the Democrats.

MR. CLEVELAND AND PENSIONS.

A Washington dispatch states that it is known that President Cleveland has strong views on the pension question, and the statement is justified by the course of Mr. Cleveland while President of the United States. The Senators and Representatives who have recently visited him in New York have corroborated this report, however, and the general rumor now is that the President-elect believes that a revision of the pension laws should be made in justice to the country at large as well as to those veterans who deserve assistance at the hands of the Government. He is said to be convinced that many hundreds of names now on the pension lists should be stricken therefrom, and that the \$500,000 a day now being paid out in pensions are not being expended according to the spirit of the original pension law.

If Mr. Cleveland really entertains these opinions—and there is no reason to doubt that he does—he is certainly in accord with the large majority of his fellow-citizens who recently sent him back to the White House. It is a conceded fact that if the present rate of increase in pension payments is maintained it will not be long before the people will have to contribute \$1,000,000 a day for that purpose. Secretary Foster himself is quoted as saying that the annual pension expenditures will, in a short time, reach the enormous sum of \$250,000,000 a year.

To this prospective demand on the Treasury is largely due the anticipated deficit in the vaults of that building, and if the pension requirements increase at the rate expected they will soon absorb all the revenues of the country, leaving the legitimate expenses for running the Government to be supplied as best they may. This would, of course, necessitate increased taxation and the probable increase of the public debt. It is predicted, therefore, that Mr. Cleveland will, in his first message, "recommend a revision of the pension roll to such an extent that it will be a roll of honor, and only those who will be found upon it who were wounded during the war or who have been disabled since." It is estimated that fully one-half of the names on the list are those of unworthy pensioners.

This reduction of the pension lists is one of the most important tasks before Congress, equal even to that of tariff reform. It is a matter of the gravest interest to the whole country, and especially to the South. Should an increase of the revenues of the Government be demanded the people everywhere will be subjected to increased taxation to supply it, and the South, already heavily drained of her resources to furnish millions of dollars to be scattered annually throughout the North, would be called on to bear a still heavier burden. It is but the part of justice and wisdom that she should be relieved of this strain upon her, and that she should not be asked to pay her needy means to support a claim of men who have no shadow of a claim to Government aid, and whose names were only put on the pension roll in the first place as a pretext for forcing her to contribute more largely than ever to the prosperity of the North. She has long since paid a tremendous war debt, and now every sentiment of right demands that she be relieved as far as possible. She is willing to pay her part to the support of the Government and to the pensioning of deserving veterans of the war; beyond that nothing more should be exacted.

THE DISPATCH ON LOCAL CURRENCY.

We are very glad to have the Little bout now on hand with the Dispatch. Nothing aids in revealing truth like discussion, and our discussion of what is to-day the most important question before the people of the United States may result in clearing up some people's minds. The Dispatch of yesterday says: "The Times misunderstands our proposition. We will restate it."

If the theory be true that the best currency is that which refuses to leave home, then whatever American currency England, France and Germany refuse to accept is as good as better in the United States than the currency which England, France and Germany do so accept."

In other words, if the American greenbacks cannot be circulated in those countries, but stay at home always, then upon The Times' theory they are better than a currency which would not stay at home but would circulate freely there.

The substance of this is that the Dispatch thinks our argument goes to prove that because greenbacks will not circulate in England and France, but obstinately stay within the confines of the United States, therefore they are really a better currency for the world's use than a currency which will circulate both in the United States and in every other quarter of the world.

If the Dispatch could show that our argument led to this conclusion it would utterly destroy it, for it would show that we were claiming that a currency that would circulate only in Richmond city was the best currency that Maryland could have, although it would not circulate at all in Maryland, which would make us argue for a palpable absurdity.

But The Times has never contented for this, or for anything like it, and the Dispatch's radical error, if it will pardon us, is in failing to distinguish between money and currency. Currency—from the Latin currere, to run—is that which will pass in a given locality as a substitute for money. Its capacity to pass or circulate, depends upon the credit of the issuer. It is not reasonable to expect this, whether issued by our Government or by any other agency, here, to pass current in France or England, and, as matter of fact, there is none that does so. When we discuss currency we must confine our remarks to instruments of credit designed to circulate within our jurisdiction, for there is no world's currency. Premising so much, we will state again the proposition relating to a local currency that we have been contending for.

There is but one money, coin, minted and stamped by the Government. All other things which perform some of the functions of money are but substitutes for it. They are promises to pay money. When the issuer of one of these substitutes, called currency for convenience, is known to be both able and willing to redeem them when called on, they will grow into a circulating capacity throughout that region of country that knows the character and ability of the issuer. But they will attain to no currency or circulating power in regions that know nothing of the character and ability of the issuer.

But little currency is needed for the world's great commercial affairs. These are operated by balancing credits one

against the other. But in rural districts there are no, or but few, mutual credits for interchange. These, therefore, to operate their business transactions, must have either actual money, or a substitute for money that will perform its functions. There is not money enough for all of them to have the quantity they need, and, if there were, many would be unable to obtain as much as was needed. But experience has shown us that a currency substitute for money may be made to answer perfectly for it. If the rich men of character in a neighborhood are permitted to put out their circulating promises to pay money on demand, the people far and near, who know the men, will take these promises and pass them from hand to hand just as though they were actually the money that they promised to pay. In this way a currency is given to them and they are established as a circulating medium—a substitute for money—in that neighborhood, and, as they perform their part to perfection in that neighborhood they are a blessing to it. When, therefore, they stray away from it, they have got out of their element into one that they were not suited for and are not suited to. It is greatly to be desired, therefore, that they should at once be sent back to the people who want them and can use them profitably, rather than that they should attempt to establish themselves in the homes of people who know nothing about them and don't want them.

We hope the Dispatch will now see the sense in which we speak of a neighborhood currency being improved by being at a discount away from home. Its use is for the neighborhood, and not for the world, and is there anything in the proposition that it is best that this currency should be made to confine itself to the region of country where it performs a useful part, that tends to prove that it would be the best currency for other regions, where it could not perform a useful part? It is the currency needed in that neighborhood, but it is not currency, either good or bad, in any other neighborhood.

THE ANTI-OPTION BILL.

Senator Gordon, of Georgia, is quoted as saying that he shall vote for the Anti-Option bill "if it reaches a vote in the Senate, in deference to the wishes of the Legislature and the farmers of Georgia," although he has serious doubts of its effect upon the cotton planters.

Senator Gordon would do much better to yield to his "serious doubts" and vote against the bill than to allow a senseless clamor to drive him into doing a foolish thing. The "Anti-Option" bill is another of those attempts which legislators are constantly making to control by legislative enactment the fixed and immutable laws of nature.

Prices for future delivery of farm products are controlled, like prices of everything else, by the inexorable laws of supply and demand, and it is the vainest of foolish human efforts for the maker of human laws to think that he can interfere with the silent but overwhelming operation of this natural law by any of his petty statutes. The present price of corn on the first day of next September will be fixed and determined by the opinion of those dealing in corn upon the question, what supply of corn will there be next September, and what demand for corn will exist next September. Human laws cannot prevent men exercising their judgment on these two questions, nor can such prevent men from taking chances of making money by selling or buying corn to be delivered next September. The law simply puts obstacles in the way of dealing in corn, but those who make a business of this at once set themselves to work to arrange methods for circumventing the law, which has always heretofore been done, and will always hereafter be done. The legislative acts do nothing but put hindrances in the way of legitimate business, and make occasions for illegitimate speculations through bucket-shops and such like.

The popular error that sales of produce for future delivery must depress prices as making a class (the sellers) interested to put them down, is remarkable in the extended influence it exercises over men. They wholly ignore the fact that wherever there is a seller there must be a buyer, and if the seller becomes interested to depress the price, the buyer has become interested to enhance it, and that the influence of the one must neutralize that of the other, leaving the law of supply and demand to adjust the price.

The story of the plan to poison non-uniform men at Homestead has been revived by the death of another of the victims. One J. M. Davidson, a union man, has also testified that he was present at a meeting of Knights of Labor and others, where the plan was conceived to make the men sick—not to kill them. The powder, it is alleged, were used, but the men were refused their pay, and because of this refusal informed the authorities. A Pinkerton detective testifies that he overheard a conversation in which the matter was discussed by the two men engaged to do the poisoning and one other man. There was also testimony about sickness occurring in Homestead. The circumstances surrounding these poisoning cases are exceedingly black for the suspected prisoners, and it looks very much as if something was rotten in Denmark.

Mr. Richard Croker, grand schemer of Tammany Hall, has settled the vexed question, raised chiefly by Republicans, about Tammany's demanding the Federal patronage of New York from Mr. Cleveland. He says that any appointments the President may make will be acceptable to Tammany Hall, which has no demands whatever to make on him. He declares that he will do all he can to relieve Mr. Cleveland from any embarrassment in the matter of appointments. There are no requests for place to make from that organization, and Mr. Croker wishes it understood that as it supported him at the polls, just so loyally is the Tammany Hall Democracy going to support Mr. Cleveland in his administration.

Uncle Jerry Rusk has issued another pamphlet telling the farmers how to get rid of pestiferous bugs, beetles, moths, etc., which eat up the crops. He doesn't say one word about the Pension cut, however, which is eating up the substance of the people.

No Money in Base-Ball. NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—At a meeting of the New York Base-Ball Club yesterday, Mr. John B. Day tendered his resignation of the presidency. No action was taken in the matter. The treasurer showed a loss of \$22,000 for last season.

TIMES' DAILY FASHION HINT.

Elegance in Petticoats—The Garments on the Aggressive.



The reception toilet in the picture is of heliotrope cheviot, with pluche-mariage and a velvet bodice. The jacket has a Watteau pleat at the back, which is fastened under the stiff collar, and hangs independently from the rest of the waist. Under these folds the back fits tightly. The waist is made separately and fastened to the bodice, the material only extending to where it meets the belt, which is made on stiff lining, and is ornamented each side with a hering-bone, and is closed at the back under the Watteau pleat with hooks and eyes. Instead of breast darts, the bodice has folds, and closes in the center under the full front. A plastron of ecru lace is drawn in at the neck in folds, and carried on to the waist. The skirt of the waist is trimmed with marabout edging, which is made of tufted silk threads, and looks very much like plush. The Watteau pleat can be removed altogether, and the dress worn without it. The skirt, cut like a train, and is also trimmed with marabout. It is lined with silk, and has a large balaclava sewn inside.

Look about you on the streets or in the stores, and you will make up your minds, as I do, that silk petticoats have by no means come to an end of their possibilities in the way of frivolity and fancifulness. They are now made of silk in every respect the same as may be used for dresses. I saw one, for instance, of pale blue striped with narrow stripes set wide apart of alternate cherry and bright green. At the bottom of this skirt, which was only long enough to reach the ankles, were two pinked ruffles, one overlapping the heading of the other. The top ruffle made the stripes of the skirt, which were very full, and were covered each by a ruffle of fine black lace, put on very full. The whole was as fluffy and crisp as you could fancy, and, without the two ruffles, the skirt of the skirt worn over them "set out" as nothing else would?

THEIR FATHER'S CHRISTMAS.

Jack Andrews' Children Beg for His Release from the Holidays.

Governor McKinney yesterday received the following letter:

To the Governor of Virginia: Dear Sir—We, the children of our father, would most earnestly desire that you will let him spend Christmas with us at home, as it will be the first Christmas we ever remembered without him, that is, if you refuse our petition.

Respectfully, Emmett, Frank, Lizzie and Lewis Andrews.

The senders of the letter are the children of Jack Andrews, who is at present serving out a term in jail for committing an assault upon Police Justice Crutcheff. The Governor sent the following reply: My Dear Children,—I was very greatly touched by the petition presented by you, asking the pardon and release of your father in order that he might spend the Christmas holidays at his home and with you, and it is with deep regret that I feel constrained in the performance of my official duty to deny your request. I truly hope that your father may soon be restored to his home and to you, and that the family circle may never again be broken by causes wholly within his control. I am, with great affection, your friend, P. W. MCKINNEY, Governor.

Among the visitors at the Capitol yesterday were John H. Leche, treasurer, and T. Sanford Grady, clerk of Northumberland county; M. S. Cahoon, treasurer of Botetourt county.

DRY GOODS, &c.

THE COHEN CO. 11, 13, 15 and 17 East Broad.

Open nights till 10.

The evening concert are a success—and we're not speaking from the standpoint of merchandising, either. They're a success because our public enjoys them. The Big Store is more than a store—it's an educator; an entertainer. Come often; no compulsion to buy; lookers and listeners are welcome.

The holiday shopper gravitates here, rain or shine. There's a satisfaction about going to Cohen's—you're sure to find what you want and you're sure the quality, style and price are right.

Need candies or ornaments for the Christmas tree? Need fancy candies for any purpose, or candle shades?

The union—one and inseparable—a small boy and his EXPRESS WAGON, 24-inch Chestnut bodied wagon, excellently well made, 50c. Wagons for more and for less—you'll find any of 'em less here than most anywhere.

The LAMPS retreated at double-quick Monday. Yesterday was spent in mending the ranks. Ready for your further assaults now. And such a lamp stock—from the dainty fairy lamp to the proud piano. Why do we sell so many? Because—

We sell a full-height Enamel Lamp, complete with silk-fringed shade for \$1.75. We sell handsome and handsome ones up to \$2.50. We sell a nickel or brass piano lamp, center draft burner, patent light on some to light without removing chimney—complete with shade, \$4.50.

THE COHEN CO.

THE COHEN CO.

We sell piano lamp with two onyx shelves, the standard at back, onyx knobs, complete with shade, \$19.50. We sell the most unique combination of the season—ebony and iron, with large light vase-like base, for \$28.50. We sell a charming piano lamp of brass and onyx for \$21.50. We sell a mighty pretty stand lamp, decorated, 50c. We sell a stand lamp, ebony base, decorated front and shade, for \$1. We sell a stand lamp with brass base and stout, ornamental onyx finish shade, center draft burner, \$2.85. Basement.

Didn't know we kept Cradles and Cribs? Oh, yes. A charming folding crib \$6.80. Strong durable cradles, \$1.69.

Wicker Chairs don't stand on the season. We sold hundreds in August; we sell hundreds in December. Great for gifts. Dainty designs for the ladies; big restful chairs for the men-folk, \$2.87 to \$10. Basement.

There's a never-ending charm about the fancy things so Christmas in suggestion; so lavishly displayed. Here's a gift of hundreds that went unmentioned in Sunday's list—Atomizers, 75c or \$4.75 as purse and fancy delight.

Those cute little Solid Gold Rings at 46c keep going like butter before the sun. More grosses of them keep coming. Dainty settings. Sizes to fit big and little folks.

You'd hate to give an unworthy sort of a present. Buy worthy sorts. These Umbrellas—uniquely designed handles gathered from many lands—are mostly of the famous Lyon brand. Hundreds and hundreds of givable ones ready for you. Do we believe in our goods? Yes; to prove it—we recover \$1.50 umbrellas—and the \$1.19 ones, too, if they split in six months; the higher priced ones if they split within a year. We couldn't afford to say that and stick to it if we thought many would need the new covers.

The stock, you know, outgrew its old quarters and now occupies a liberal space at the front. Handy to see. We'll engrave initials on umbrellas costing \$2.50 or more without charge.

An unusual drive—old fashioned gloria, silk warp and wool filling; reliable as can be made. We warrant it six months. The price \$1.19.

A Christmas Gift

TO EVERY PURCHASER

In our Cloak Department for every day this week.

To every purchaser of Cloaks or Wraps for ladies, misses or children, we shall make a special discount of 10 per cent. from the regular price until Christmas. Don't you know of some lady or miss that a warm cloak for the cold days would add more to her health, happiness and comfort than mountains of gold to those less needy?

Boys' Clothing.

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS GIFT TO OUR CUSTOMERS.

Any suit of Boys' Clothing in our house at cost, and some less than cost. This offer is for the purpose of closing out Boys' Clothing, as we cannot spare the room it occupies.

JAPANESE WARE.

New styles—new shapes just arrived! Fancy dishes of all kinds—Vases—Jardinières—Cups and Saucers—etc.—Great variety and low prices.

BLANKETS.

We are offering some unusual values in White, Gray and Scarlet Red Blankets for holiday buyers; also a magnificent line of Wrapper Blankets for Bath and Shower, and children's bed.

Store open every night till Christmas. Shop in the morning hours and as early in the week as you can get here, and you will be better satisfied with your purchases, besides avoiding the crush of the last of the week.

LEVY & DAVIS.

THE TOWER!

Corner Second and Broad.

OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL CHRISTMAS

GLOVES

play such a large part in holiday giving that we have been obliged to more than double previous stock. All qualities for street and evening wear.

LADIES' AND GENTS' UMBRELLAS.

To-day we will commence our sale of fine Umbrellas. We call special attention to the quality of material used and the neat handles, gold and silver trimmings, Prince of Wales stick and Dresden handle.

RIBBONS FOR FANCY WORK.

We purchased this week from several leading manufacturers over 25 pieces of Faint, Satin, Moiré and Sain Edges, Gros Grain Ribbon, which we offer at a low price. The line can be seen on third dress goods counter.

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF MOURNING

POCKET-BOOKS, PURSES AND CARD CASES.

Our assortment of Pocket-Books is something enormous, and each day until Christmas we will have a special bargain in this department.

MATTINGS.

Large Plaid Damask Matting, 30c. Double Warp Matting, 25c. Cotton Warp Matting, 20c.

WHITE ANGORA SETS FOR CHILDREN.

White Hair Mitts and Bows for children, 75c. Black Hair Mitts, 50c. Mink Bows, 35c and 50c. Black Coney Bows, 15c. Initiation Seal Mitts, \$1.25.

TOY DEPARTMENT.

Our Toy Department is crowded from morning until night with eager buyers. It is not surprising, as our assortment is simply enormous.

Indications point to this as the biggest selling day in the firm's whole history. We're ready for it—with great stocks and efficient organization. Start your shopping day early.

THE COHEN CO.

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LEVY & DAVIS.

NEW

HOLIDAY GOODS

NEW STYLES!

NEW PRICES!

43 cases came yesterday and placed on sale this morning. NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY, and the sooner the better while the selection is here.

Don't put off buying on any account, for the last few days before Xmas will be one grand rush, and it will be impossible to then make selections with any sort of satisfaction.

Rain, hail, snow, sleet, mud or anything else should not induce you to postpone your holiday purchases even for one day. Buy while the goods are here and when you can receive attention which you cannot get later.

HOLIDAY LINENS.

Another lot came in last night and the prices are right. They make an acceptable gift as anything in our entire stock.

LUNCH SETS.

Bleached Damask Lunch Sets. They come in plain and fancy borders and are the finest goods we ever offered at the price.

The cloths are 21-2 yards long, with 1 dozen napkins to match, and the price only \$2.50 for the \$3.50 quality; \$3.50 for the \$5 quality, and \$5 for the \$6 quality per set.

Open-Border, Knotted-Fringe, Bleached-Damask Lunch Sets at \$6.50, \$7.50, \$8.50 and \$11.

Hemstitched Double Damask Lunch Sets, cloth 3 1/2 yards long by 2 1/4 wide, with 1 dozen napkins to match, only \$15 for the \$20 quality.

Hemstitched Damask Lunch Sets in light blue, at \$5 for the \$10 quality.

Irish Point Linen Table Squares, in new designs, from \$1 up to \$1.75 each.

Irish Point Linen Buffet Scarfs, only \$2.50 each.

Fancy Border Damask Towel, size 25x33 inches, at 20c, for the regular 30c quality.

11-4 White Marseilles Bed Spreads at \$1.35 for the \$2.50 quality, and the 12-4 size at \$2.55 for the \$4 quality.

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